



Date: May 27, 2005
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: *City Report For Week Ending May 27, 2005*

This *City Report* provides an update on various City staff activities for the week ending May 27, 2005. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Community Development, Economic Development Bureau

Staff participated at the International Council of Shopping Centers 2005 Spring Convention on May 21 –25. The world's largest real estate convention was held in Las Vegas with a record 40,000 attendees from 50 countries. Staff and City officials met with developers and brokers to discuss development opportunities in the City of Long Beach. Follow-up meetings will be held to further those discussions.

Approximately 5,000 members heard mayors, county officials, city managers, and economic development professionals discuss efforts to streamline the public process for developers and create development opportunities during a panel discussion titled *Red Tape or Green Light for Development – Public Sector Networking*. Mayor O'Neill's presentation highlighted the City's Development Help Desk, Over-the-Counter Plan Check, and Consolidated Code Enforcement Services.

Fire, Police

The City of Long Beach participated in *Operation Lead Shield*, a major multi-jurisdictional mock terrorism exercise, on May 20, 23 and 24. The exercise involved federal, state and local agencies responding to a terrorist attack on the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. The main command and control functions were located at the City of Long Beach's Emergency Operations Center. The joint operational agencies were able to successfully manage the scenario in a coordinated and cooperative manner.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

The California Coastal Conservancy approved a \$200,000 grant for design of wetlands restoration, habitat enhancement, and recreational trails adjacent to the Los Angeles River west and south of DeForest Park in the areas known as the Dominguez Gap and the DeForest Wetlands. Negotiations are underway to begin design of this project, which has been in the planning stages since 2000.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

Staff has prepared for the expected crowds on Memorial Day weekend, the official beginning of the summer beach season. Lifeguard towers were placed in position, all waterlines were raked and sanitized, and hardscape areas such as the bike path, boardwalks, and parking lots were swept in preparation.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Fire

Life-saving skills will be taught at the annual CPR Sunday Health Expo, sponsored by the Long Beach Fire Department and the American Red cross, on **June 5** at Long Beach City College. There is still time to register online at www.cprsunday.org or call 570.4035.

Public Works, Airport Bureau

Staff will participate in three events in June to provide public outreach and information on the Long Beach Airport: CPR Sunday at Long Beach City College on **June 5**, City of Signal Hill's Annual Family Day at Reservoir Park on **June 18** and the Bixby Knolls Street Fair on **June 26**.

Police

Ten employees, both sworn and civilian, will participate in the Annual Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run on **Friday, June 10**. At approximately 1:30 p.m., Long Beach Police will receive the torch from LAPD at the west city limits and carry it for seven miles to the Pyramid at CSULB where Special Olympic Athletes will meet them.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is Special Olympics' largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle, raising more than \$20.5 million for Special Olympics programs around the world in 2004. More than 85,000 law enforcement officers carried the *Flame of Hope* across 35 nations.

Harbor

With the peak of this year's shipping season fast approaching, maritime transportation industry experts will present their final cargo forecasts at a *Pulse of the Ports* breakfast conference on **June 14** at the Hilton Long Beach Hotel. The Port of Long Beach is hosting the cargo forecast conference to help the industry prepare for the summer-to-fall peak season when Christmas products are shipped through the local ports.

AWARDS

City Manager

The City of Long Beach is one of nine statewide winners of the annual *Governor's Veterans Employer of the Year* awards, which was presented on May 6. Long Beach was one of three honorees in the "Government/Public Sector" category, recognized as an employer that gives top priority to hiring, training and promoting veterans.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,492 emergency calls for service: 120 calls for fires, of which 28 involved structures; and 752 emergency medical calls, of which 522 required paramedics.

Police

Citywide, police officers responded to 829 priority one, 2,028 priority two, and 11,986 priority three calls for service, for a total of 14,843. Officers made 759 arrests, issued 1,960 citations, and conducted 210 field interviews.

In response to a media report that a home in North Long Beach housed 14 sexual offenders, staff conducted a community awareness forum on May 25 at Jane Addams Elementary School. Sex Crimes Detectives talked to more than 300 people about Megan's Law and guidelines for appropriate community response to these individuals living in the neighborhood. Detectives also announced that one of the offenders had been moved.

Health and Human Services

The Long Beach Roundtable, which includes Long Beach area hospitals and clinics, the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, and staff, met May 24 to discuss syndromic surveillance, a mechanism to identify early stages of disease outbreaks. These meetings allow local health agencies to share ideas and keep channels of communication open on health issues that impact the community.

Bioterrorism Preparedness Program staff provided information on emergency preparedness planning for families at the Christ Second Baptist Church on May 22; the Community Emergency Response Team class on May 23; and the Yacht Club on May 24.

Public Works Department, Airport Bureau

On May 24, Long Beach Airport hosted the City's monthly Public Information Officers' (PIO) meeting at the future site of the new Airport Community and Pilot Information Center (Airport Center). Topics of discussion included a presentation by Disaster Management staff on the preemptive dialing system, and the Airport's emergency preparedness drill, a triennial event, which will be held next year.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Public Works, Airport Bureau

Staff met with officers and faculty members from Long Beach Unified School District and Long Beach City College to discuss a State required curriculum for 3rd grade education, which would include the Long Beach Airport's history as part of the local history. The curriculum, which would meet California Teaching Standards, would be utilized for in-class training and for pre- and post-follow up by schools that schedule an Airport tour. The curriculum should be available for the 2005-06 school year.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Public Works, Airport Bureau

On May 3, Airport staff hosted a tour for 48 first grade students from Cubberly Elementary School and participated in Barton Elementary School's annual Career Day on May 25. A series of tours have been scheduled from June 2 - 10 for five groups. On June 22, about 30 tour guides from the John Wayne International Airport will be touring the Long Beach Airport. Since 2004, 16 elementary schools, middle schools and a high school have participated in the Airport's Tours.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau

The final phase of the Skylinks Golf Course renovation project has been completed. The highly visible maintenance yard near the northeast corner of Lakewood Blvd. and Wardlow Road was refurbished. The buildings have been repaired, repainted, and re-roofed, and the perimeter of the facility now has attractive landscape screening.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Work continues on the amphitheater in Cesar E. Chavez Park. Fabrication of the ornamental iron fence that will surround the amphitheater is in progress.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau

On May 24, the Housing Authority Community Services informed Mural Arts that the Redevelopment Agency would sponsor a new mural project at the Andy Street mural site in North Long Beach.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Health and Human Services

A graduation ceremony for 66 Latino Diabetes Prevention and Management Program participants was held on May 13. The three-month program, which teaches individuals how to prevent and manage the condition, is presented in Spanish. Past graduates of the program, *promotores*, work with staff to teach classes, outreach to the community, provide social support, and links to other community health resources.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau

On May 24, approximately 900 LB WRAP (Winners Reaching Amazing Potential) After-School Program participants and 70 staff members took part in the Second Annual Spring Performance, *Dancing In the Streets*, held at Lakewood High School.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

On May 21, the Stearns Champions Park Musical Theatre Group presented its final performance of *My Home Town* to more than 75 community members.

SPECIAL EVENTS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

More than 200 people attended the Shoreline Frontrunners Run, a non-competitive fundraiser, on May 21 at the beach bike path between Belmont Pier and Shoreline Marina, south of Shoreline Village.

OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Public Works, Airport Bureau

On May 23, six proposals were received in response to the Airport's Request For Proposals for Concession Services. Proposals for Food and Beverage Concession Services were received from Creative Host Services and OTG Management, both nationally known, high-quality providers of airport food and beverage concessions. Proposals received for the Gift and News Concessions Services were submitted by Galamar Enterprises, Hudson Group, Soto & Sanchez Investments, and The Paradies Shops.

Firms submitting responsive proposals will be invited to an interview the week of June 20. It is expected that the award recommendation will be submitted to the City Council in early July.

Energy, Gas Services Bureau

Staff completed a total of 3,172 service calls. This total included turning on 894 Gas and Water Utility services, and turning off 845 Gas and Water Utility services. During this period, 1,109 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 324-meter maintenance and billing related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 397 emergency phone calls that resulted in 80 emergency orders being sent out.

GRM: KP: arc

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